

Consultation: Worthing Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Revised Charging Schedule Consultation

Highways England Reference: #11007

Dear Mr Attmore,

Thank you for inviting Highways England to comment on the Worthing Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Revised Charging Schedule Consultation.

Highways England has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the strategic road network (SRN). The SRN is a critical national asset and as such Highways England works to ensure that it operates and is managed in the public interest, both in respect of current activities and needs as well as in providing effective stewardship of its long-term operation and integrity. Highways England will be concerned with proposals that have the potential to impact on the safe and efficient operation of the SRN, in this case the A27.

Having reviewed the document, we feel it would be beneficial to the reader to include an introduction to CIL explaining what it is and how it is set but do not have any further comments on the document itself. However, having read the associated webpages, Highways England wishes to highlight that contributions towards mitigation on the Strategic Road Network by individuals or groups of developments are dealt with via Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980, not CIL, because CIL does not provide the necessary certainty required to guarantee delivery and funding of the mitigation. As such, Highways England recommends that such clarification is included so that it is clear to all parties.

We would also like to take this opportunity to reiterate that the amended CIL regulations introduced a requirement for charging authorities to publish an annual Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) (the former Regulation 123 List) setting out how much CIL and planning obligations is collected and spent along with a list of infrastructure projects or types of infrastructure which will be, may be, wholly or partly funded by CIL. Highways England is committed to playing an ongoing role in relation to regular reviews of the IFS and therefore to contribute to the council decision on the use and management of CIL funds for relevant strategic highways infrastructure projects. We understand this statement should be published by 31st December each year and Worthing Borough Council is required to publish its first this year. As such, Highways England requests that we are consulted in this when it becomes available so that we can cross-check that there is nothing in it relating to the SRN that shouldn't be (e.g. it is already accounted for elsewhere).

If you have any queries regarding our response please contact us at planningse@highwaysengland.co.uk.

Regards,

Sent on behalf of Kevin Bown, Spatial Planning Manager Area 4

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